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Ms. OAKAR. Mr. Speaker, I th the gentlewoman for yielding.

Yes, it has.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. OAKAR. Mr. Speaker, if the gentlewoman will yield further, H.R. 2077 was passed by the House under suspension of the rules on September 19. The House bill merely extends for another 2 years the provisions of the Physicians Comparability Allowance Act of 1978.

The Senate amendment to H.R. 2077 substitutes an entirely new text which does the following:

First, it extends the Physicians Comparability Allowance Act for 4 more years, rather than just 2 years;

Second, it waives the repayment of various amounts to the Government in the case of 13 Federal physicians who were paid Senior Executive Service bonuses in excess of the statutory limitation on SES compensation; and

Third, it permanently removes SES performance awards and Presidential ranks from the overall SES compensation cap.

The amendment I am offering today is a complete substitute for the Senate amendment. The first section of the amendment maintains the original House position and extends the physicians comparability allowance program for only 2 years.

Section 2 of the substitute amendment contains two reporting provisions dealing with the Senior Executive Service.

The first provision directly addresses the effect of the overall executive level I cap. Currently, the law provides a senior executive may not be paid more than a Cabinet Secretary when basic pay, Presidential ranks, performance awards, and physician comparability allowances are all added together. In lieu of the Senate amendment, the substitute amendment directs the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to study the effect of this cap on the recruitment, retention, and morale of the Senior Executive Service (SES) and report back to Congress within a year. Once we have the benefit of this report, we can decide whether a change in this cap is needed.

The second provision imposes reporting requirements concerning SES performance and rank awards. The committee believes that bonuses should be awarded to encourage excellence as the statute provides and not as a general salary supplement. To insure that this is the case, the amendment provides for annual reports from OPM on which senior executives receive performance awards and Presidential ranks, the amount of each award, the justification for each award, and the percentage of career appointees within an agency who receive awards. With this information, the committee can conduct vigorous oversight and insure that SES performance awards and ranks are not abused.

The substitute amendment does not include the Senate provision waiving overpayments to 13 Federal physicians.

(Ms. OAKAR asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. OAKAR)?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the House amendment to the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the House amendment to the Senate amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate amendment to the text of the bill, insert the following:

That (a) section 5948(d) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking out "September 30, 1983" and inserting in lieu thereof "September 30, 1985"; and

(2) by striking out "September 30, 1985" and inserting in lieu thereof "September 30, 1987".

(b) Section 3 of the Federal Physicians Comparability Allowance Act of 1978 is amended by striking out "September 30, 1985" and inserting in lieu thereof "September 30, 1987".

SEC. 2. (a) The Office of Personnel Management shall study and, within 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to each House of the Congress a report on the effect which section 5383(b) of title 5, United States Code (relating to the maximum aggregate amount payable to a member of the Senior Executive Service in a fiscal year) has had with respect to recruitment, retention, and morale of career appointees in the Senior Executive Service.

(b) Section 3135(a)(7) of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(7) for the preceding fiscal year, by agency—

"(A) the number of performance awards, and the number of ranks, conferred, as well as the respective aggregate amounts paid for such awards and ranks;

"(B) the percentage of career appointees in such agency who received any such award, and the percentage who received any such rank; and

"(C) the name of each individual who received any such award or rank, the award or rank received, and a brief summary of the reasons why such individual was selected;".

Ms. OAKAR (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the House amendment to the Senate amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the initial request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

UTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS FOR MARITIME PROGRAMS OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, 1984

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 352 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2114.

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2114, to authorize appropriations for the fiscal year 1984 for certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation, and for other purposes, with Mr. SABO in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the first reading of the bill is dispensed with.

Under the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. SNYDER) will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 2114 is the fiscal 1984 authorization bill for the various maritime programs of the Department of Transportation.

This is a routine maritime administration authorization bill. The total sum authorized is $486,807,000. These sums are completely in line with those requested in the administration's budget with one small exception.

The authorized amounts break down in this way:

First, $401,294,000 for operating differential subsidy. These payments are given pursuant to a contract between the Government and certain U.S.-flag ship operators to reimburse the operators for the higher costs they incur because they operate U.S.-flag ships instead of foreign-flag vessels.

Second, $11,500,000 for research and development programs of the Maritime Administration.

Third, $8,048,000 for national security support capability. This includes the maintenance of the national defense reserve fleet which provides our country with a reserve of vessels which can be put into service in an emergency.

Fourth, $20,266,000 for operation of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, N.Y.

Fifth, $10,668,000 for the U.S. Government contribution to the six State-operated maritime academies.

Sixth, $3,000,000 for the costs of fuel oil used by the U.S. Government's training vessels assigned to the State

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